IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for a client device, comprising:

searching, locally, free-form text contained in a plurality of documents ~~contents of a plurality of data storage media of the client device~~ for pre-selected data, the plurality of documents being stored on a plurality of data storage media of the client device, the client device being a personal computing device ~~couplable to a server via a network~~; [[and]]

~~upon~~ detecting locally at least a portion of the pre-selected data in the free-form text of at least one of the plurality of documents stored on any [[one]] of the plurality of data storage media of the client device[[,]]; and

sending a notification of detection of the pre-selected data from the client device to [[the]] a server coupled to the client device via [[the]] a network.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

upon detecting at least a portion of the pre-selected data, preventing access to the detected data.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~content~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents is searched periodically.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~content~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents is searched when the client device is disconnected from the network.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein sending a notification comprises:

upon detecting the pre-selected data, creating a message containing the notification of the detection of the pre-selected data;

placing the message in a transmission queue; and

transmitting the message to the server after the client device is re-connected to the server.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving instructions defining a scope of a search for the client device from the server.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein searching ~~content~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents ~~of a plurality of data storage media within a client device~~ comprises:

receiving an abstract data structure associated with the pre-selected data; and

utilizing the abstract data structure when searching the ~~contents~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents ~~of the plurality of data storage media within the client device~~ for the pre-selected data.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein searching ~~content~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents ~~of a plurality of data storage media within a client device~~ comprises monitoring one or more specific data operations for presence of at least a portion of the pre-selected data.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein at least one of the one or more specific data operations is selected from the group consisting of a file-read, a file-write, a file-

update, a read from a removable media device, a write to a removable media device, and access of data stored on any of the plurality of data storage media by a program running on the client device.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the pre-selected data has a tabular format.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the pre-selected data is capable of being re-structured into a tabular format based on relationships among elements of the pre-selected data.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the pre-selected data is maintained by an organization in at least one of a spreadsheet, a flat file, and a database.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the pre-selected data is associated with an abstract data structure comprising a tuple-storage structure derived from the pre-selected data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the abstract data structure comprises a plurality of tuples, each of the plurality of tuples including a row numbers of a data item in a corresponding cell of a tabular structure of the pre-selected data.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein each of the plurality of tuples additionally includes a column number and optionally a column type of the data item in the corresponding cell.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of data storage media is selected from the group consisting of a main memory, a static memory, and a mass storage memory.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~searching contents of~~ a plurality of data storage media comprises[[:]] ~~searching content of~~ one or more volatile storage devices ~~within the plurality of data storage media;~~, and ~~searching content of~~ one or more persistent storage devices ~~within the plurality of data storage media~~.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising detecting use of the pre-selected data by an application running on the client device.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising:

identifying the application using the pre-selected data; and

reporting the identified application.

20. (Currently Amended) A client device apparatus comprising:

means for searching, locally, free-form text contained in a plurality of documents ~~contents of a plurality of data storage media of the client device~~ for pre-selected data, the plurality of documents being stored on a plurality of data storage media of the client device, the client device being a personal computing device ~~couplable to a server via a network~~;

means for detecting locally at least a portion of the pre-selected data in the free-form text of at least one of the plurality of documents stored on any of the plurality of data storage media of the client device; and

means for sending a notification of detection of the pre-selected data from the client device to [[the]] a server coupled to the client device via [[the]] a network ~~upon detecting locally at least a portion of the pre-selected data on any one of the plurality of data storage media of the client~~.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the ~~content~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents is searched periodically.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the ~~content~~ free-form text contained in the plurality of documents is searched when the client device is disconnected from the network.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein means for sending a notification comprises:

means for creating a message containing the notification of the detection of the pre-selected data upon detecting the pre-selected data;

means for placing the message in a transmission queue; and

means for transmitting the message to the server after the client device is re-connected to the server.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:

means for receiving instructions defining a scope of a search for the client device from the server.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein means for searching contents of a plurality of data storage media of the client device comprises means for monitoring one or more specific data operations for presence of at least a portion of the pre-selected data.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein at least one of the one or more specific data operations is selected from the group consisting of a file-read, a file-write, a file-update, a read from a removable media device, a write to a removable media device, and access of data stored on any of the plurality of data storage media by a program running on the client device.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the plurality of data storage media is selected from the group consisting of a main memory, a static memory, and a mass storage memory.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein ~~means for searching contents of~~ a plurality of data storage media comprises[[:]] ~~means for searching content of~~ one or more volatile storage devices ~~within the plurality of data storage media;~~, and ~~means for searching content of~~ one or more persistent storage devices ~~within the plurality of data storage media~~.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 28 further comprising means for detecting use of the pre-selected data by an application running on the client device.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising:

means for identifying the application using the pre-selected data; and

means for reporting the identified application.

31. (Currently Amended) A client device comprising:

a plurality of storage media storing a plurality of documents containing free-form text ~~various data~~ for the client device, the client device being a personal computing device ~~couplable to a server via a network~~; and

at least one processor coupled to the plurality of storage media, at least one processor executing a set of instructions which cause the processor to search locally the free-form text in the plurality of documents ~~contents of the plurality of data storage media~~ for pre-selected data, and to send a notification of detection of the pre-selected data from the client device to [[the]] a server via [[the]] a network upon detecting locally at least a portion of the pre-selected data in the free-form text of any of the plurality of documents ~~on any of the plurality of storage media~~.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed on a processor cause the processor to perform a method for a client device, comprising:

searching, locally, free-form text contained in a plurality of documents ~~contents of a plurality of data storage media of the client device~~ for pre-selected data, the plurality of documents being stored on a plurality of data storage media of the client device, the client device being a personal computing device ~~couplable to a server via a network~~; [[and]]

~~upon~~ detecting locally at least a portion of the pre-selected data in the free-form text of at least one of the plurality of documents stored on any [[one]] of the plurality of data storage media of the client device[[,]]; and

sending a notification of detection of the pre-selected data from the client device to [[the]] a server coupled to the client device via [[the]] a network.